ON ICE.

A Good Day's Sport at Central Park.

RACY MERRYMAKING ON SKATES.

Scenes at the Ponds and Lake-Driven Away by the Snow.

Merrier than the tone of many a marriage bell were the peals of joyous laughter which rung through Central Park yesterday. There was skating on every pond within its charming limits, and nobody was ever known to join in the sport with what is generally known as a sour face. Whatever contortions the howling snow storm may have produced in the evening-for "it blew and friz and snew." as the ancient poet has ittrue it is that the day was spent in unalloyed enjoyment. It is questionable, indeed, whether the supposed forthcoming monopoly of ice companies, consequent upon the niggardly display of Mr. Jonathan Frost this season, at all entered into the

THE MIRTHFUL MULTITUDE that thronged the Park. From an early hour-say ten o'clock-the street cars commenced to convey their freight of sportsmen to the scene. The prospects were encouraging in the extreme, and even the good natured Park policemen brightened up in anticipation of a little exercise. But it is gratifying to state that their good offices were not brought into active requisition the entire day. Nobody was hurt; nobody misbehaved nself; everybody left the Park a ruddler and a healthier man. Just about the time that Sol began to shed his weak but genial rays all the ponds were covered, not only with good, sub-stantial ice, but on top of it by the loveliest portion of the community on Manhattan Island. It was to all intents and purposes a great and glorious day, a day of FUN AND WHOLESOME RECREATION;

a day of rosy cheeks, when the lovely glow of health comes out on the proverbial sallowness of the metropolitan face; a day, in fact, when human nature is seen to the very advantage free of expense. And day was all the more appreciated because of its unexpected auspicious surroundings. The season had been unaccommodating—evidently de-termined to let us have neither ice for our cobblers nor ice for our soles; but now that the blood-red globe proclaimed the advent of gallant Mr. Frost, juvenile New York waved its cap with joy. Heretofore he had only been a mere Jack-in-the-box-"now you see him and now you

Jack-in-the-box—'now you see him and now you don't." Yesterday, however, he drew his frosty brush across the ponds of the Park in earnest, and it seemed as if he wished to give the boys and girls A SOLID TREAT.

And he did it, and thousands relished it, and didn't blame him a bit when, in the afternoon, the snow, hissing with the violence of the wind, fell in blinding flakes, making a thick and unwelcome coating on the ice that eventually, though not until iong after sendown, brought the invigorating sport to a temporary close. If the inn, so lar as it went, was capital. Morning broke with a cold, steel-canopied sky and every promise or a splendid day's sport. As early as ten in the morning

THE POND AND THE LAKE in the Central Park had numerous little fellows, from seven to ten years, cutting around in the happiest abandom. Later on came the big boys, and still later still bigger boys, with mustaches and side whiskers. And the girls came—a whole host—grown-up girls, too, trembling on the edge of matrimony. At noon the surface of the lake must have resembled the fields of the Egyptians when the locust plague hid them from the sky, for it was black with big and little humanity. Such a through has been seen there once or twice before, but never one any larger than that which appeared on this favorite skating ground yesterday, between noon and two o'clock. It seemed as if every soul in the city who had a pair of skates rushed to the Park to get at least one day's good work out of them. Well, for the multitude the lake has its waters regulated to a depth of only four feet, for never did

tude the lake has its waters regulated to a depth of only four feet, for never did

A VAST AND THOUGHTLESS CROWD

of people appear to the observer on the shore in more imminent danger of their lives. The field of ice waved up and down like a huge plate of tin, and the thousand tine seams cut across its surface appeared ready to break apart at a moment's notice. It made one nervous to watch the heaving fee field threatening every instant to part asunder and drop the thronging skaters into a bracing bath beneath. Along the margin of both pond and lake the ominous symptoms of danger showed themselves in the alternoon, for the wind had made havoc with portions of the ice, but they gave little alarm to the gay and careless crowd that kept shooting to and fro and weaving in and out until the eye became dazzied observing their ceaseless and incessant movements.

at until the eye became dazzaed cost. The easeless and incessant movements.

The best of humor prevailed—it always does on kating ponds—and skill and awkwardness made that the pond at th

the entrance of the Park with its sly little sheets of tee afforded excellent opportunity for beginners who could happily come grief unobserved—a luxury which must be experienced to be appreciated. On the lake the lancy skaters appeared in force; this charming panorama being enhanced by the presence of many ladies, whose FASCINATING FRATS upon the ice lent additional interest to the scene. Not a single accident occurred, and when at evening the snow began to come down handsomely, the economy of the system was not much disturbed by a fall. But the atmosphere was full of life and animation, and many a jest and jocose criticism went far to heighten the enjoyment of the scene. Indeed one youngster, whose reverence for the dead was not at all satisfactory, expressed his regret that the Siamese Twins were not on hand to demonstrate their ability on skates.

THE STORM.

But it was at length evident that the expected But it was at length evident that the expected pleasure of skating at night was an impossibility. The wind increased, and at half-past five o'clock the ponds and lake were covered with snow. The aport was impeded on every hand, and when six o'clock came the flag went down, not because of the weakness of the ice, but on account of the permanent obstruction which the heaps of snow began to present. The sport of the day was declared to be at an end. There was great good humored disappointment, for the hope was universal that before morning rose the storm would cease and the ball would go up again. Workmen immediately set out to clear the ice and prepare it for the widely expected fun to-day. As the shades of night began to fail a rousing snow storm set in. Small boys and tall boys, with glistening skates slung over their shoulders, hurried from the Park, murmuring at the capricious ways of the weather clerk and vowing to renew the sport to-day. Not the least interesting leature of the amusements was

under the auspices of the Calcidonia Club, which created a good deal of interest and excitement. Altogether, yesterday will long linger in the minds of the many who participated in the rare sport in the Park.

THE BROADWAY CIGAR MERCHANT.

Yesterday afternoon Coroner Croker concluded the investigation previously commenced in the case of Mr. Jacob Tebrich, the Broadway cigar merchant, who on the morning of the 29th ult. merchant, who on the morning of the 29th ult. was found lying dead on the sidewalk fronting his residence, 102 Amity street, under circumstances as previously reported in the HERALD. From the testimony the jury believed that Mr. Tebrich died from compression of the brain caused by fracture of the skull, the result of accidentally failing from the steps of his residence to the pavement, and such was their verdict. Deceased was lifty-seven years of age and a native of Prussia.

PATAL CAR CASUALTY.

Robert Rosenbaum, a German lad, twelve years of age, who a few days ago was run over by car No. 116 of the Grand and Desbrosses street ferry line and severely injured, died yesterday in Bellevue Hospital. Decased, a match pedier by occu-pation, was endeavoring to make sale of his wares to some laborers, and in doing so iound himself between two cars, going in opposite directions, when his basket caught on the hand rail of the car, throwing him down. Falling on the track the hind wheel ran over him, with the result stated. Coroner Croker will make an investigation.

A \$15,000 FIRE IN NEWARK LAST NIGHT.

About eight o'clock last night a fire broke out in the brick building No. 60 Jackson street, Newark, occupied by Peter Righter, an india rubber cloth manufacturer. Owing to the inflammable cloth manufacturer. Owing to the inflammable character of the stock some \$15,000 worth of property was destroyed before the Bremen got the flames under control. About twenty tons of rags were consumed. The building was gutted, the roof being entirely destroyed. There was no insurance on the property. The owner, Mr. Righter, was sick in bed when the dre broke out. He declares that meendiarism caused his loss, The authorities will appear to the forts.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

THE SUPERVISORS.

Meeting of the Board of Supervis Yesterday-Important Proceedings-The Powers of the Board-The Comp-troller Aimed At-The Tammany Hall Rill Rescinded.

The Board of Supervisors met yesterday after. noon, at half-past three o'clock, in the Chamber of A mandamus of Levi Stockwell against the city

was referred to the Committee on Laws. THE COMPTROLLER AND PRIVATE COUNSEL. Supervisor McCafferry then offered the follow

Ing resolution:—

Whereas the Counsel of the Corporation, acting on the instructions of the Comptretter, without any communication on the subject with the Board, having employed special counsel to appear before the Court of Appeals and argue and maintain that the power is exclusively in the Financial Department to examine, audit and allow all claums against the county; and it being evident that the decision on the question thus raised is one which will affect very severely the powers and duies of the Board, and that such a question ought not to be passed upon by the Court of Appeals in the absence of this Board, and on the assumption that the Board acquiesces in the view maintained by the Department of Finance, be it therefore. Resolved, That the matter be and is hereby referred to the Committee on County Offices, to inquire specially into the same, with power, if considered salvisable, to employ counsel to appear for and defend the rights and powers of this Board, if the same is attached, to pass upon, audit, or allow all charges against the county.

A motion was made to lay the matter on the

A motion was made to lay the matter on the table, but this was opposed by Supervisor MaCAF.

Supervisor Offendorfer said that this was a matter which should be considered carefully, and that it was necessary to examine bills in the Comptroiler's office, and that many times errors had been found in them after they had passed the Su-pervisors, it was, no doubt, the best course to

pervisors. It was, no doubt, the best course to pursue.

Supervisor McCapperry said the question was whether the passing upon bills by the Board of Supervisors on one nand or by Mr. Green on the other was final. He held that the Comptroller had not the power to pass upon the act of the Board.

Supervisor Koch said that Mr. Green had every department under his thumb, and that he wanted to have inll sway over everything. He had men at \$5 per hour to examine claims which often amounted to less than \$100 themselves.

Supervisor Falconer said that there was a person in the chamber who would favor the resolution, as his bill had been reduced twenty-five per cent.

tion, as his bill had been reduced twenty-five per cent.

A motion to lay on the table was lost.

A motion was made that the expenses of counsel on any one matter be not more than \$150. This motion was not put.

The vote on Supervisor McCafferty's motion was then taken, and resulted in 10 for and 5 against. Supervisor Ottendorier and the four Tammany members voting aganst it.

The DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

An application was made by the District Attorney for more office room. Laid over.

EXPENSES OF TAMMANY HALL.

Alderman Van Schalck offered a resolution that the motion alopted by the Board September 19, 1873, by which the bill of the Tammany Society for the sum expended in making repairs to premises vacated by the Sixth regiment, and also for balance of rent, amounting to \$22,001 25, was andited and allowed, and the Comptroller ordered to pay it, be rescinded and repealed, and that the bill be referred to Committee on Civil Courts for examination.

This resolution was carried by 10 to 5. the

examination.

This resolution was carried by 10 to 5, the Tammany members and Supervisor Ottendorier voting against it.

The Board then adjourned.

AT IT AGAIN.

Another Fight in the Board of Assistant Aldermen-Gentlemen Who Call Each Other Thieves and Liars-The Fireless Engine Company Row Again-Disgraceful Proceedings.
A meeting of the Board of Assistant Aldermen

took place vesterday at half-past two o'clock. There was some delay before calling the roll and a great deal of mere talk indulged in. The chair renained unoccupied until Assistant Alderman Keating was moved to preside over the meeting. Assistant Alderman Clancy moving to strike out the words referring to Assistant Alderman Murphy

being in contempt. After some irregular voting it was carried to leave the words out. Assistant Alderman HEALEY-This is the most contemptible action that ever took place in a legis

contemptible action that ever took place in a legislative body.

No one answered the gentieman, and, after looking round the Board room, he sat down again.

THE CITY HALL PARK FOUNTAIN.

The fellowing resolution was offered by Assistant Alderman HEALY:—

That the Department of Parks be and they are hereby requested to report to this Board at their earliest convenience the cost of the fountain now in the course of completion at the southerly end of the City Hall Park, and when such fountain is to be completed, if ever, or whether it is to be another eyesore for the citizens and taxpayers of the city.

This resolution was carried.

This resolution was carried.

The CITY RAILROADS.

A resolution was moved by Alderman Healy to appoint a committee to investigate the charges made against the city railroads, that they did not pay their license fees, with power to send for persons and papers. An amendment, providing that the words "send for persons and papers" be struck out, was lost, and the resolution was referred to the Committee on Railroads.

THE UPTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT.
Assistant Alderman Sommers offered the follow-

Assistant Alderman Sommers offered the following:—

Whereas additional fire apparatus has been repeatedly asked for by and is indispensably necessary for the protection of the lives and property of the residents of the Nineteenth ward: and waereas a location is now or can almost immediately be provided for an additional engine company in the house formerly occupied by Engine Company No. 37, in Fitty-minth street, between Second and Third avenues, now temporarily used by the Northeastern Dispensary, which, in consideration of vacating the said premises immediately, should be provided with another location, at the expense of the city, at a rent not exceeding \$100 per month, and the shereby and the exceed \$100 per month, and the shereby and the exceed \$100 per month, and the shereby and the exceed \$100 per month, and the shereby and the exceed \$100 per month, and the shereby and the exceed \$100 per month, and the shereby cards, such rent for the present year to be paid from the appropriation for special contingencies; and that the resolution authorizing the said dispensary to occupy the said engine house, approved January 15, 1866, be and is hereby repealed.

This resolution had to be read four times in full before the Board understood it. When linally light broke upon them there was some discussion as to whom it should go to. It was finally referred to the Committee on Buildings, after many objections from Assistant Alderman Sommers.

A motion was made to discharge the Committee on Railroads after hearing the report, which was kept back by a member the week before on the Fireless Engine Company.

Assistant Alderman Murphy—I object to such language, as I was the one who had the paper.

Assistant Alderman Murphy—The gentleman

stolen, and I mean it.
Assistant Alderman MURPHY—The gentleman

stolen, and I mean it.

Assistant Alderman Murphy—The gentleman tells a gross laisehood.

Assistant Alderman Healby—I guess the gentleman would steal an anchor chain if he could carry it. The discossion continued excitedly, and finally the Committee on the Fireless Engine Company was permitted to come in with another report, the he direct having been previously given by Assistant Aldermen Clancy and Healy. Both members were constantly pounding at each other and calling each other most abusive names. In the meantime the committee returned with another report, recommending that the Pireless Engine Company be allowed to operate their engines above Fourteenth street, on condition that the several railroad companies accord them the permission. This report was signed by Assistant Aldermen Healy, Sommers, Bergen and Wisser.

Assistant Alderman Murphy gave a minority report, saying that in spite of his being a member of the committee had not been notified to attend any meeting, and complaining that the committee gave ne reasons for the action taken. He recommended that the report be sent back to the committee and the public invited to give their views on the matter. On a vote of 12 to 6 the minority report was adopted.

Assistant Alderman Sommers then moved the

report was adopted.
Assistant Alderman Sommers then moved the Assistant Alderman Sommers then moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Fireless Engine Company of the city of New York are hereby authorized to agree with any of the ratiroad companies of this city whose railroads are now operated by horse power for the use of their fireless engines as motive power in this city, above Fourteenth street; and any of such railroad companies are authorized to use such motive power on their railroads, under the conditions imposed by chapter 432 of the Laws of the State, passed May 7, 1873, and may commune to use the same during the pleasure of the Mayor and Common Council of the city of New York.

The Board concurred in the resolution of the Assistant Aldermen providing for the appointment of a joint committee to examine the pay rous of the several departments, alming at retrenchment.

AROUND THE CITY HALL.

The Mayor will not take any action regarding the charges against Police Commissioner Russell

of writing anonymous communications.
City Chamberlain Lane reports that he has received from banks for interest on deposits for

ceived from oards for interest on deposits for January \$6,645 66. The receipts of the Bureau last week were \$4,763,072 57, and the payments \$1,207,673 47. The balance in the City Treasury on Saturday was \$4,900,487 92.

Mr. Butler, the President of the Sixth Avenue Railroad Company, called on Mayor Havemeyer yesterday to confer as to licensing cars. The meeting between the two gentlemen was long and lively, though it is believed no conclusion was come to.

come to.

A committee of the Knights of St. Crispin, headed by Mr. Nelson W. Young, called on the Mayor yesterday morning, to confer with him as to the propriety of seeking some means of discovering the murderer of Nicholas and Mary Ryan. who.

it will be remembered, were found dead in a tenement house in Broome street on December 31. The committee recommended that a reward be offered for the capture of the murderer. The Mayor promised to offer a reward of \$1,000, and the committee retired satisfied.

promised to offer a reward of \$1,000, and the committee retired satisfied.

THE EX-CHAMBERLAIN'S INTEREST.

The following communication has been received by the Clerk of the Common Council:—

The following communication has been received by the Olerk of the Common Council:

New York, Feb. 2, 1874.

To the Honorarix the Common Council:

Oratlender of the Common Council:

Gratlender of the Common Council:

Gratlender of the Common Council:

Gratlender of that office received not less that the late holder of that office received not less that the late holder of that office received not less than 525,000 per annum. All my acts while I was chamberlain were public. There was no concealment nor evasion of the truth, which I have ever been willing the whole public should know. I am charged with not having pad out to the city the interest accurated on deposits. The 18th Amdrew is Green, compareder, seat letters to all depositaries in which the Chamberlain had placed the city and county moneys that they should not pay any interest to the Chamberlain on the 6th of January tollowing I accepted the office of Chamberlain and discharged the duties in strict accordance with the laws then in force governing that office. Mr. Havemeyer well knew of this letter from the Computoller. He knew I never received any interest for city deposits. He also knew that at Mr. Green's or some other of his particular friends' complaint an injunction was obtained against all public depositaries restraining them from paying any interest to the Chamberlain, and not one dollar was paid me while in office nor at any time since. Respectfully yours,

DEPARTMENT OF PHRICE WORKS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Commissioner Van Nort makes the following comparative statement of expenditures in the De 1873 showing a reduction, or actual saving, on acnution of expenditures on trust account of \$2,357,014, making a total diminution of expendi-

EXPANDITURES ON ACCOUNTS PAID PROM TAXATION.

Appropriations. fu	res, 1871.	tures, 1873.	Reductions.
Aqueduct repairs and maintenance Lamps and gas. Public buildings, construc-	\$189,881 1,151,146	\$123,109 745,653	\$66,771 405;492
tion and repairs Salaries Sewers, repairing and	107,667 240,007	40,059 161,300	67,006 78,707
cleaning	214,463	83,828	130,635
Supplies for and cleaning public offices Sundry appropriations	115,859 423,286	45,000 275,420	70,859 147,866
Total expenditures from			

Total reduction or actual saving on expenditures from laxation.

Note.—The appropriation for maintenance of Boulevard and avenues in 1873 (\$55,000 is not included in the above statement, as the Department of Public Works did not control it in 1871.

EXTENDITURES ON TRUST ACCOUNTS.

| Expenditation | Expenditatio

Total expenditures on trust accounts.... \$8,625,898 \$6,268,884 Total diminution of expenditures on trust accounts.... Total diminution of expenditures on trust
accounts.

Accounts.—I. The Boulevard improvements were under
the Park Department in 1871.

2. The amount of \$700.000 for water meters is an expenditure incurred in 1871, as the contract was made in
that year, and the present administration remsed to
make requisition for the same until compelied by mandamus of the Supreme Court, payment or which is still
resisted by the Corporation.

The aggregate quantity of work done by the several
bureaus during the year 1873 is much larger than in 1871,
notwinstanding the reduction of extenditures and
working force. The following are come of the quantities
of work done:—
On creater Pieze.

of work done:—

ON CROTON PIPES.

Twenty-five and three-quarter miles of pipes laid, varying from 4 to 48 inches in diameter.

ON ALTERATIONS OF AGENCIET (SIG FIPES).

One thousand seven hundred and eleven pieces of 48-inch pipe received, 19,300 lineal test of pipe laid, 28,670 ethic yards rock and earth excavated, 17,412 cubic yards of protection wall and massery built, 19,21 lineal test of sewers built, 30,000 cubic yards of material filled in.

ON NTREET (APPENDIX.)

terial filled in.

ON STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

One hundred and forly-two thousand four hundred and seventy-three square yards stone block pavement laid, covering six miles of streets; 300,000 square yards Tellord Macadam roadway built, 12 miles of streets regulated and graded, 40 miles of sewers built, in mile of culverts built, 82 receiving basins constructed, 2½ miles of underground drains constructed.

STATEMENT OF REVENUE COLLECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS IN 1871 AND 1873.

1871. 1873. Net Increase,

| Receipts for Croton water | 1871. | 1873. | New | 1873. | Ne Net revenue from Croton \$1,087,480 \$1,572,807 Receipts for vault and sewer \$77,860 \$87,928 6,000 5,500 Cost of collection..... Net revenue from sewer and vault permits..... \$71,860 \$84,428

Total net increase in revenue collected by the Department of Public Works..... An aggregate amount of about \$20,000 remains unexpended on the several appropriations and will be transferred to the general fund, applicable to the reduction of taxation for the current year. On the appropriation for lamps and gas there is a deficit of \$48,853, of which the Board of Estimate and Apportionment were informed in due season, but upon which they took no action.

CITY AND COUNTY TREASURY. Comptroller Green reports the following disburse-

ments and receipts of the treasury yesterday	·-
Claims paid (number of warrants 4), amounting to Pay rolls (number of warrants 1,136), amounting to	\$87,935 130,110
RECEIPTS.	\$218,045
From taxes of 1873 and interest	\$23,447 - 8,202
From collection of assessments and interest	2,440
From water rents. From ticenses, Mayor's Office	202 27
From rents, &c., Department of Public Parks From fees and fines, district courts	24
From sales of City Record (one week)	30

CRIME IN NEW JERSEY.

Business Before the Essex County Jury-A Long-Winded Grand Jury-Stirring Up the Newark Ring Frauds.

Yesterday, in the Special Sessions at Newark, a batch of young desperadoes was disposed of summarily. Patrick Burns, a noted scamp, who with others attacked a saloon keeper named Andrew Hoffman, using a pistol and smashing in windows, because he recognized them as young rogues and refused to serve them with oysters, was induced to plead guilty and was sent to State Prison for two years. James Bramghal, an accomplice, was sent to the County Jail only. He had been drinking when he committed the offence. There have also been sent by this Court to State Prison the following:—John Matthews, a thief, four years; Richard Burhs, a burglar, four years; William Edwards, a burglar, four years; John Anderson, thief, one year; Patrick Whelan, burglar, six months; Amanda Williams (colored), thief, one year: Putring the trial of one Donovan for malicious mischief the Court stated that business had been delayed two hours by the contimacy of a witness, Mrs. Tainder, who, when the officer served a subpoens on her, declared she did not care a dama for the Court, and it an officer attempted to take her she would shoot him. The Tainder termagant was hauled up, but let off with a fine of \$5.

THE GREATEST ANXIETY is felt among citizens generally in regard to the possible or probable action of the Grand Jury with reference to the municipal corruptionists, who are alleged to be guilty, some of meliceasance and some of nonteasance. Yesterday the Grand Jury entered upon the fourth week of its labors. The major portion of last week, judging from the witnesses called in, was consumed in looking into the two years. James Bramghal, an accomplice, was

tered upon the fourth week of its labors. The major portion or last week, judging from the witnesses called in, was consumed in looking into the charges which Judge Depue said would be brought to the notice of the Jury, and it will take all of this week to flush up this, the most important part of the labor of the session. Meanwhile there is the greatest uneasiness in official circles, for reasons easily understood.

INTERESTING LIBEL CASE. The Chamberlin-Wilkes Matter Again Adjourned.

The examination of the case of John F. Chamberlin charging George Wilkes with gross libel, was continued before Justice Otterbourg yesterday afternoon at the Court of Special Sessions. The counsel, as on the previous examination, ex-Judge Fullerton for Mr. Chamberlin and Mr. Courtney for the defendant, promptly appeared. The spectators

were lew in number.

The counsel for the defendant again endeavored to put on record by the plantiff's evidence that he was engaged in illegal business in St. Louis, New York and Long Branch, but the Court would not admit such questions, holding that they were trrelevant to the issue and cause. So the examination went along, the plaintiff ad-

AUSTRALASIA.

Steamships and Mail Communication with Europe Through America-The First Vessel of a New Line-Politics and Religion-Saved from Savages and a Waif from the Ocean-Reception of Archbishop Vaughan by the Catholics-The Heathen Chinee in Alarming Riot.

SYDNEY, Dec. 20, 1873. Within fourteen days from this three distinct mail services will be in operation between these colonies and the older world. Insignificant as this may appear in America and England it is in reality the precursor of a new era in Australian history and marks the date from which the severance of unity of interests commences, for hitherto they have been connected in a mutual bond to subsidize the Peninsular and Oriental mail steamers and bear a proportionate share of the expense. These new engagements are certain to provoke intercolonial jealousies, and indeed have already done so, as each government is even now endeavoring to divert mails and traffic in favor of tne line it has established.

THE MACGREGOR.

The pioneer vessel of the new San Francisco line is the largest mail steamer that has ever left the colonies, and her voyage will be watched with special interest as affording an index to what can be accomplished by the California route. She takes the largest mail that has yet crossed the Pacific; a full compliment of passengers. cargo and a large amount of good wishes that the link connecting the newer Britain with her more mature sister of the West may prove mutually advantageous. New South Wales does not require material aid; her natural resources seem almost unlimited, her expanse of territory large enough to form several States as extensive as European empires. What she lacks is greater energy, newer ideas, more advanced civilization, and in these she hopes to profit by American

examples.

ENGLISH ANNEXATION. It may not be generally known that England has decided to increase her possessions in the South Pacific by annexing the large island adjacent to New Guinea discovered by Her Majesty's ship Basi lisk. It is so stated here, and the vessel has been ordered to return there to make surveys.

THE GOVERNMENTAL SITUATION. Political affairs have been complicated, Ministerial prestige injured and religious prejudices awakened by the dishonorable manner in which Mr. Butler, late Attorney General, was deprived of the office of Chief Justice. By precedent, legal ability and high private character, the position ought to have been his, especially as the head of the government made a voluntary promise to that effect; but, unfortunately, Butler Is a Roman Catholic, and the Orangemen had powerful political influence, and ministers, preferring to retain their pay at the expense of their honor, gave the appointment to Sir James Martin, leader of the op position. When the Legislative Assembly was asked to censure them for doing so a large majority expressed their dissatisfaction, but declined to oust them from office, as there appeared to be no person on the opposition side capable of becoming Premier. The motion was therefore shelved by a friendly amendment declining to come to any decision. Butler's retirement from the Ministry left it with only one law officer. A second could not be obtained, so they abolished the office of Solicitor General. Since then Parliamentary business has progressed so slowly that they have sought to secure the influence of the Methodists by appointing one of their creed to the new office of Minister of Justice and Public Education—rather a strange combination, even at the antipodes.

Justice and Public Education—rather a strange combination, even at the antipodes.

A walf From The Ocean.

Last week Her Majesty's ship Dido returned here from a cruise, bringing as passenger a seaman, the sole survivor of the crew of the bark Piato. The ship left here for China with coal some months ago, struck a reef north of New Caledona, the crew escaping in one of their boats and making for the Solomon Islands. On reaching their destination they were mercilessly slaughtered by the natives. The mate shot himself rather than be fortured by the savages, and the survivor was spared from a superstitious belief that, as the half dozen arrows by which he was pierced had not touched a vital part, it would be unlucky to attack him again. Fortunately the Dido, hearing of a white man being in captivity there, rescued him, and at the same time arrested three of the principal murderers—one of whom committed suicide by poison the following night.

Diabolism on THE SLAYER DAPINE.

Hideous as the disclosures relative to the slaver Carl have been, still blacker and more revolting revelations have been made lately respecting the cruise of the Daphne, another British vessel also nailing from Melbourne. During one of her blackbirding axpeditions she hove to one evening off an island in the vicinity of the Solomons, where a white "beach comber" was located, and, for a consideration, octained his services to decoy some native lemales on board for immoral purposes. The ruddan was not without qualins for his own safety, it, as he

white "beach comber" was located, and, for a consideration, octained his services to decoy some native lemales on board for immoral purposes. The rudian was not without quaims for his own safety, il, as he suspected, the girls were to be stolen. The captain and supercargo, two well known residents of Melbourne, piedged themselves to return them next day, and after outraging them on deck, in presence of the crew, lent them to be similarly treated by all the sailors. Then, by muffing the cable, the anchor was silently weighed, the victims of lust were taken below half lifeless, and when morning dawned land was no longer in view, and the vessol was heading for Fil, where the girls were disposed of to planters. Information of the outrage was given to Commodore Stirling, who found that the only witnesses then obtainable were physicians whose oaths would not be acceptable in a court of justice. Why the British Commodore kept silence on the matter can only be accounted for on the hypothesis that to stir in it would bring additional inlainy on his national flag, used as it has been in the Southern Pacific.

THE ENGLISH CATROLIC ARCHBISHOP.

The arrival of Archbishop Vaughan, coadjutor to the Metropolitan of Australasia, was marked by one of the grandest religious demonstrations ever witnessed nere. The selection of an Englishman desuned to be the successor of the venerable prelate, nead of the Catholic Church in Australia for forty years, was not altogether satisfactory to the radical section of the denomination. One of their moving spirits had stated at a public meeting that an Irishman should have been appointed, and national jenionsies threatened to mar the intended welcome. Calmer minds at length succeeded in urging the force of the provert, "A house divided against itseli," &c., so that when the mail steamer was signalled off the coast on the lefth there was a unanimous resolve to do honor to the new colonist. Five steamers, laden with deergy and latty, met the Nubla ten miles at sea, and formed an escort into por

was signalled off the coast on the 16th there was a unanimous resolve to do honor to the new colonist. Five steamers, taden with cergy and laity, met the Nubia ten miles at sea, and formed an excort into port, where Archbishop Colding awaited his colleague. Thousands who lined the wharf where he landed formed a monster procession and escorted him to the pro-cathedrial, to receive there the formal welcome of the Church.

FRENCH COMMENISM.

Reports from the new homes of the French Communists indicate continued disquietude. The wives of about 500 arrived at Noumea, from Erest, last month, and were, in most cases, permitted to repoin their nusbands, thus, to some extent, depriving them of one ground of compisint. A few who had anticipated the privilege granted their compress had been relegated to the society of felons, at the Precipice, where the discipline has become more rigid, the froms heavier, and other modes of punishment more elaborate and frequent. The officials evince their distrust of those at isle de Pines by now keeping a gunboat almost constantly stationed there. Among the orders recently received from France has been one to despate the war steamer Vere to Campbell's Island, to make preliminary arrangements for a party of French scientists engaged to observe the transit of Venus. There will also be a second station in some locality yet to be decided upon.

EW ZEALAND AFFAIRS.

Fill has assumed a more quiet aspect since the arrival of Commodore Goodenough and Consultayard. They have heard what the planters denominate our grievances, as well as the other side of the story from the King's party, and will, probably, report to the British government by the present mail. Mr. De Courcy Ireland, one of the ringleaders in the late revolt, is taking practical measures to teach Captain Chapman, of the reserve to the history to define the same time say in aver no one of the subject. He has resented his arrest by Chapman, Instigated by the quasit government, by commencing a civil action here for false imprisonm

ment is assured.
QUEENSLAND GOLD.
The roving portion of the population of Queensland are in a terment about the new gold discovertes at Palmer and Endeavor rivers. In vain the government issues warnings that there is no lood

there nor any means of obtaining it until after the rainy season. It cannot deter the more adventurous from trying to get to the new diggings in spite of climate induences or attacks by hostile blacks, who are so numerous that murder by them is now such a common occurrence as to excite no surprise. A large steamer laden with government supplies for Endeavor River jett Brisbane this week.

CHINESE IN RICH.

To the Heathen Chinec belongs the honor of having caused the greatest riot in Victoria since the Ballarat miners noisted the flag of revolt in 1854. The proprietors of the Lothari Gold Company of Clunes opined that it would be to their interest to discharge their kuropean employés and fill their places with a ngomans. The townspeople thought otherwise, on the ground that public morals are not suproved by Chinese society, and joined the miners in preventing the new comers filling their places. The company, anticipating a difficulty, obtained a posse of police to escort 150 Chinamen into the camp provided for them, while the rioters, determined to resist at any cost, sent out scouls to notify by what road they were coming. As soon as this was discovered several hundred diggers, assisted by their wives and children, three up particades, and collected defensive ammunition in the snape of stones, bottles, cluss and mining tools, under the mineraled to resist at some of the Mayor. On came the cavalcade of coaches, laden with the guardians of the peace and their charges, until they were within hitring distance, and then, after a brief parley, they became the targets of the miners. Then came such a shower of missiles that John Chinaman considered that as he was paid only for digging those paid for fighting should do so on their own hook. Their retreat was followed oy that of the poine, with several wounded, the officer in command being badly injured. No amount of persuasion could induce the eastern invaders to make another effort. Wholesale prosecutions of the rioters are to follow.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Polities, Customs Revenue and the Church-The Question of Succession to the Crown.

HONOLULU, Jan. 14, 1874. The election news is not very exciting. Candidates without limit have been put forward, but, as vet, only two tickets have been circulated-one the nomination of the foreign merchants, the other of the native. The Hon. Colonel David Kalakana is making many friends as the successor of His Majesty, in case the succession is left to the vote of the people. CUSTOMS RETURNS AND COMMERCE.

The Collector General of Customs has published

a table of the leading articles of export from this kingdom during the year 1873. The figures are quite encouraging, and, for the information of your readers, I condense the following from his report:-The sugar exported shows a gain over the amount exported in 1872 of 6,133,699 lbs.; rice, 486,317 lbs.; coffee, 222,749 lbs.; fungus, 25,377 lbs.; bunches bananas, 1,972; goat skins, 13,104 pieces; tallow, 115,877 lbs.; wool, 40,981 lbs., making an increased valuation of \$315,822 40.

fungus, 25,377 lbs.; bunches bananas, 1,372; goat skins, 13,104 pieces; tailow, 115,377 lbs.; wool, 40,951 lbs., making an increased valuation of \$315,322 40.

The present prospects for a good crop of leading exports are very good, as the rains of the pust month have given sugar cane and grasses a start.

The missionary packet Morning Star left this port on the 9th of June last, since which nothing has been heard from her. Although the non-recept of news is explained by some quite piansibly, still there is anxiety in this community as to her whereabouts. She was fitted for a cruise of eleven months, and is not expected here until April. CANDIDATES FOR THE RAWAILAN THRONE AND CROWN—THE PRINCIPLE OF POPULAR ELECTION.

The Poalua of Honolulu, of December 30, published the following article on the subject of the succession to the throne in the event of a latal termination of the King's illness:

To a throne is an eminently proper and at times a paramount subject for public discussion in all monarchical countries where the people are, as in these islands, in the enjoyment of Prectom and constitutional rights. We objected to such a discussion some months past, when public opinion was not so clearly and generally defined as now, and when we thought that the object of the discussion with some was evidently to thwart the hope of a great majority of the people. But now that the state of the Sovereign's health is in every man's month, and as the hope of the people is clearly indicated in respect to the manutenance of the Hawaiian throne, we shall unreservedly make known our views upon the subject.

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David Lonoikamakahiki Kecia Kecima Kalakana. The high blood and the expensione in public artains of this gentleman he eminently qualify him to be the successor of the Kamehamehas and of King Lunaillo. Such an appointment wound cause a general rejoicing throughout these isles, and the rejoicing would be all the more if, after it was made, the people had assurance of His Majesty's convalescence, and were assured that the throne for many years to come would be filled by him whose accession they and we hailed with so much enthusiasm.

LITERARY CHIT-CHAI.

THE MAXIMUM of cheapness in literature has been reached by a London edition of the "Waverley Novels," published by Dicks at threepence each. For about six cents one may have any one of Scott's novels complete, in fair print and illustrated by John Gilbert.

"A HISTORY OF BOOKSELLERS," by Henry Curwen, has been published by Chatto & Windus, successors to the deceased publisher, John Cowden

A LONDON MAGAZINE for January has an article on Joan of Arc, raising the question whether she or some other person was burned at Ronen. If we are to lose all our fine old myths, one after another we may perhaps be consoled to find that the Maid of Orleans was not cruelly put to death after all, but that she settled at Metz, became the wife of Robert Hermoises and had a family by him. There seems to be considerable evidence in favor of this

MR. JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL IS now at Plorence, and will return to the United States in the spring. MR. JOHN RUSKIN'S singular periodical, Fors Clavigera, reached its thirty-seventh number with January, 1874. In it he proposes to establish a community for the highest possible education of English men and women living by agriculture in their native land. Its rules are drawn from Bacon and Sir Thomas More, "under sanction always of that higher authority which of late the English nation has wholly set its strength to defy-that of

Two Journals entitled The Irish Echo Were recently started in Dublin on the same day. One of them established its prior claim to the title, and the other went through the process of evolution and became the Haifpenny Express.

THE DAILY NEWSPAPERS in the United Kingdom sum up as follows in 1874:-London, 24; Provinces, 72; Ireland, 18; Scotland, 13; Wales, 2; Channel Islands, 2-total, 131.

A FRENCH POLITICAL NOVEL, entitled the "Social

and Natural History of a Family Under the Second Empire," is being written by M. Emile Zola, leader of the "realistic" school. The work is designed to do for the Cæsarian epoch what the "Comédie Humanie" did for the society of the Restoration.

THE Spectator denies to Mr. Baring Gould any credit or authority as a writer on any of the various subjects to which he has devoted his pen. It says of his "Legends of Old Testament Characters" that they "would be more accurately described, in the language of St. Paul, as 'Old Wives' Fables,' only that they must have been very old and very foolish wives, indeed, who could ever have repeated

THE LONDON BOOKSELLERS' trade sales at the close of the last century were accompanied by a luxurious dinner, where wine and laughter mingled with the competition for new books. At one of these trade sale dinners Alderman Cadell gave the toast-"The Booksellers' four B's-Burns, Blair, Buchan and Blackstone," which indicated the books that were then sold in the greatest

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Honduras and Costa Rica Politics Agitating Situation of Peace-British and American Interests and Diplomacy-Telegraphs, Crops and Treasury Reports-Railways Development-Church Affairs Excitement-The Guano Supply and General Trade Destructive Fire.

PANAMA, Jan. 22, 1874. There is everywhere the prospect of peace for Central America, except in relation to the affairs of Honduras. That unfortunate Republic seems destined to be always in hot water, caused by hostilities from without or the ambitious projects of cession of the English and United States Ministers the war with Costa Rica was warded off, and affairs put in a favorable train for settling all questions be ween Honduras State and Nicaragua. Such being the case, and the allied forces of Guatemaia and Salvador in union with Honduras, having succeeded in frustrating the flibustering invasion headed by Palacios and that later by Colonel Timoco, it was expected that these forces would retire to their respective homes and leave Honduras to regulate her own internal affairs.

Marshal Gonzales, it seems, was not satisfied with Señor Arias, the Provisional President of Honduras, why is not yet clearly made out. At all events outsiders were startled at seeing the Marshal order Señor Arias to be superseded and Señor Leiva proclaimed in his place. The relusal of the people and the existing government to acquiesce in this high handed way of settling the affairs of Honduras caused the attack on Amapala by the Marshal.

In this disagreeable state of affairs

NICARAGUA INTERFERED affairs put in a favorable train for settling all ques

in this disagreeable state of affairs

MCARAGUA INTERFERED

and demanded that the Marshal should suspend hostinties, which has been done. The news by the steamer to the lith inst, is that Schor Arnas was shat up in Comayagua with the combined forces of his recent adies (Salvador and Guatemala) waiting outside to see what he will do. Schor Leiva, who is, of course, with his protectors outside, is considered as in a laise position. As President of Honduras he would soon have a bill of war expenses presented for payment by his former alines. He could not pay in ewished, with a Treasury without a penny in it, and if he did pay he would be considered a traitor to his country (Honduras), and the sword, the only known remedy for such evils, would be again put into active operation. Senor Leiva, however, has established his government at Tognelgalpa, and issues hy sheets against "the Tyrant of Comayagua."

The government has had to pass laws with severe penalties against those who destroy the telegraph wires. It has been found that the people

telegraph wires. It has been found that the people are apt to cut offlong pieces of the wire and use them as strings to dry clothes on.

The new coffee crop promises well, and planters anticipate great profits.

The journals of San Salvador assert that the forces salvador has in front of Cambyagua, in Honduras, are there merely to see fair play.

The national debt was to be liquidated on the sist of this month.

Foreign commerce, which had fallen off since the great carthquake, was reviving, and the work on the railroad was being pushed on.

Guatemala.

The news from this Republic continues favorable in all that relates to internal progress. Her relations with all theother States were friendly. The press declares that she has no desire to aid in coercing Honduras into any measure to which the majority of its people are averse.

Costa Rien.

This Republic, having got rid of the war cloud that hung over it, is again turning all its attention to railroads and all other kinds of internal improvement. The arrival of the first locomotive at Cartage, on the 18th of December last, was the occasion of leasts and rejoicings. The people and government all united in doing honor to the enterprise that thus announced its progress towards completion.

The city of Panama and the istnmus in general continues in a state of tranquality. General Correoso, baving finished his mission as Minister of Colombia to Central America, returned to this city by the last steamer. His object now is to proceed to Bogota to contest his seat there as Senator on

to Bogota to contest his seat there as Senator on the ground that his election to that post being effected under a constitutional, and not a revolutionary regimen, is more legitimate than those Senators named by the late Constituent Assembly. The present government apparently does not trouble itself about the matter, nor has it asked the General for any explanations as to the hostilities he headed against this city and the government of President Neira. The Steamship General Sherman.

The United States steamer Wyoming left Aspinawall on the 14th inst., taking with her the fillionatering steamer General sherman for trial in the United States Courts. The Colombian authorities did not want to let her go out of their waters, and think she ought to have been tried in a Colombian Court, and still hold possession of the ship's papers found on board when she arrived. Captain Cushing has been thanked by the government of Guatemala for thus ridding Central America of a standing menace to the country.

standing menace to the country.

EXCITEMENT ABOUT RELIGION.

The only important item of news from the capital of Colombia is about the Resident Minister of the United States, Mr. Scruggs. While in the THE WEATHER.
in Panama and over the adjacent islands has been very rainy. The city, neverthless, continues in good sanitary condition.

SOUTH AMERICA.

In Peru there is still a great scarcity of money and business is restricted accordingly. All the banks have acquiesced in the decree regulating the banks in the capital, requiring certain securities to be loaged with the government as guarantees of their issues, except the Bank of London, Mexico and South America; but this latter commands the South America; but his latter commands the highest confidence of the Republic. Confidence highest confidence is that business of all kinds will soon revive.

Lima is steadily advancing in establishments by which the youth of the Republic can obtain a good education. The University of San Carlos keeps up its well merited reputation. Public opinion grows stronger every day in favor of a separation of Church and State and of acolishing compulsory religious teachings. Mexico and Chin are pointed out as examples.

RAILROADS.

ignous teachings. Moxico and Cain are pointed out as examples.

RAILROADS.

Dates to the 13th inst. announce that the locomotive has reached the city of runo, proving that the railroad connecting Lake Titicaca with the Pacific is now un rail accompti. The capital of the Incas, Cusco, is to be reached by a branch line, and works to that effect have been commenced.

PROBUCE AND TRADE.

The commission appointed by the government to examine into the guano supply report that immense strata of that valuable substance exist on the mainland. Exploring parties are to be sent to examine the north and south coasts, to see how lar these strata extend. In 1873 there were thirty-five departures of ships, with 11,634 tons of guano.

A great fire took place at Iquique on the 29th lit., destroying nearly two squares.

The loss is estimated at \$200,000.

Chili. The attention of the Chilian Congress had been taken up with the new penal code and the new Educational act. The Indians are giving trouble on the frontier

They have threatened to set fire to the crops when the wheat is ripe.

A privilege has been granted to navigate the RioBio with steam vessers. Telegraph wires now extend from Copiapo to the Araucanian frontier of
Chill.

The archbishops and bishops have protested
against making the study of religion optional in the
national colleges.

Bottvia.

It is reported from Tacna that the railroad to the Bolivian frontier is in a very forward state. The political to a narrow gauge of three feet, with a minimum curve of 350 leet radius. Operations were commenced by the engineer at a height of 14,000 feet above the sea level. There are to be no

THE SUICIDE OF MRS. SHEELDAN.

In the case of Mrs. Sheridan, the insane woman, sixty-five years of age, who committed suicide by swallowing a quantity of oxalic acid, at No. 10 Madison street, Coroner Kessler yesterday held an inquest. Deceased had obtained the poison on the plea that it was to be used for legitimate purposes, and the druggist complied with the law in regard to selling the poison. In their verdict the jury said:—"We condemn the present rather lax law regulating the sale of poisons, and would recommend that a law be enacted forbidding the sale of poisons of any kind without the written prescription of a regular physician,"